

Monday Was Indigenous People's Day



By Kirkridge

BANGOR - The land we know and love as Kirkridge is located in Lenapehoking, the indigenous land of the Lenni-Lenape people. At Kirkridge, we recognize the Lenape people as the people of this land and its perpetual spiritual stewards, and we are exploring what it means to honor this reality.

Shelley DePaul, clan mother of the Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania, will be coming to our board retreat in a couple of weeks to share more of the history with us, and we are in discernment regarding signing the LNPA's Treaty of Renewed Friendship, which would commit us to responsible stewardship of these lands and to support for the sovereignty of all Lenape people.

When colonists arrived in Lenapehoking, they brought with them smallpox and other contagions to which the Lenape had no immunity, and many died. The majority of the remaining people were, over time and through a series of shady

land deals, forced off their lands. Moravian colonists started missions and, in 1879, one of the most notorious Indian boarding schools, the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, whose mission was to "kill the Indian to save the Man." To date, the graves of 186 have been found at the the Carlisle School, which is about 2 ½ hours southwest of Kirkridge.

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Changing of the Guard At Families First

By Michael Ortoski

PEN ARGYL - Long time Dir. of Families First in Pen Argyl Frank Jones, Jr. has decided to retire making way for Mike Sabatine (a long time Pen Argyl guy) to return to working in Pen Argyl.

He was hired in August of this year and his primary function is strengthening Families in Pen Argyl. " I could not be happier to be back working in the Slate Belt and for such a wonderful organization and great cause. I am looking forward to working with the Families and Businesses of Pen Argyl. Pen Argyl is my home that I care deeply about. I want to now work to better the lives of the Families in the Pen Argyl School District, to whom we owe a great deal of appreciation" said Sabatine.

Born and Raised in Pen Argyl he attended Pen Argyl Schools, Northampton Community College-Business Administration and Management and spent 30 years in Executive Management positions and HR.

He served on the Pen Argyl School Board and served Pen Argyl as Mayor, Zoning Hearing Board Member, Park Board.

Sabatine was responsible for the Slate Belt Regional Police Department and served as the first Commissioner.

He worked the last five years for Municipal Government as a Township Manager

Volunteer work is important in his life with: MDA, Kiwanis, American Cancer Society, United way, Miller Memorial Blood Center.

He married his high school sweetheart, have three kids, and live in his old homestead.

Served as Sunday School Teacher for 30+ years and is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Bel-fast.

He can be reached at Families First of Pen Argyl, 1620 Teels Road, Pen Argyl PA 18072.

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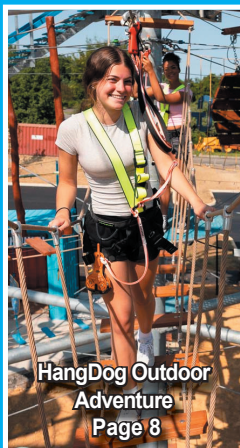
Mike Sabatine



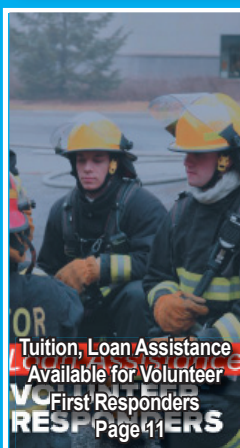
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